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p. 22 Ref to Jenner 40 or 50 years  
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G. Youngman is in Pigot's  
Directory, 1826.

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See p. 23.

A COTTAGE DIALOGUE,  
ON  
**VACCINATION;**

BETWEEN

Daniel Doubtful and Samuel Sensible.



*Daniel.*

**O** DEAR! O dear! what ever am I to do, Samuel? why my *wife's* taken bad now of the small-pox. I think surely, we have more troubles than any body in the world. There lie all the poor children, with their poor dear faces, and necks, and bodies all over covered with small-pox. It's fit to break your heart to look at 'em: they've catch'd it one of another. It has almost worn out my wife already, to tend on 'em. Night and day! Night and day! And now she's fallen bad with it, herself. What, ever, I shall do, I cannot think.

*Sam.* I am very sorry for you, Daniel, —I am indeed.

*Dan.* Surely, surely, nobody's so badly off as we are. Here are *you* living the very next door to us; and you, and your wife, and your children, are all as well as ever you were in your lives. You have got a good job of work; and your chil-



dren can go out and earn you a few pence; and your wife is able to bring you in many a shilling, one way or other; and you've every thing tidy and wholesome, about you. But my poor house is full of distress and sickness: and there's nobody to do a hand's-turn for us. To be sure, nobody ever had such bad luck as we have.

*Sam.* I am very sorry for you, indeed, Daniel,—I say, But I don't much like to hear you talk about *luck*. There is a good, and gracious Providence over every thing. But, if we follow our own fancies instead of listening to good advice, then, if things go wrong, we must take the consequence. “As we make our bed, so we must lie.”—Besides, neighbour, other people are badly off as well as you. Here's my neighbour Trotter on the other side.—His family are down with the small-pox as well as yours. There's his poor crazy wife, that goes about the country so; she caught the small-pox in some of her journeys; and it's my belief it was she that first brought it into this parish. I called in, this very morning; and there the poor creature was, with her baby in her arms; and her husband, poor fellow! was crying like a child: then there were three of the children running about the house, all over



small-pox, and two more lying in bed, without, hardly, a thing to cover them. They are all over spots, so thick and bad, it's enough to frighten you to look at 'em. They can't live, poor things. The Doctor says, they must die.

*Dan.* Poor creatures! Well, we are one as bad off as the other. But what seems to me so curious is this; you live just close between neighbour Trotter's house and mine, and yet none of your family have catch'd it of us. I can't think how this can be.

*Sam.* Why, don't you know that I had my children *vaccinated*, (I mean cut for the cow-pock) and the Squire and the Clergyman and all the Gentry advised *you* to do the same.

*Dan.* Yes, but I did not vastly approve of it.

*Sam.* Well, and I did not vastly approve of having my children catch such a sad, shocking, disorder as the small-pox is, when I had it in my power to prevent it. And I knew, very well, that if we could give them the cow-pock, it would keep them from the small-pox.

*Dan.* Well, if I had known *that*, I am sure I would not have let my children catch this miserable small-pox. But



how was I to know that they would not catch the small-pox afterwards? How did you first come to know it yourself?

*Sam.* Why, you see, about fifteen years ago, I 'listed for a Soldier; and, soon after this, we were in Barracks; and there were Six Hundred of us that had never had the small-pox.—Well, one Monday Morning, General Goodwill told the army Doctor to come and cut us all for the cow-pock. And so he came and did it. We were glad enough of it you may be sure, for we knew the General liked to have all his men healthy and well, and we were certain that he would not have taken all this trouble if he had not known that it would keep us all safe from the small-pox. Well, the next Monday Morning, the Doctor came again, and looked at all our arms. “Now, my lads,” said he, “those arms that don't *work*, I must *vaccinate* again, for, if the arms don't work, there is no good done; but if they work properly, you may be satisfied that the small-pox won't come near you. Now this is the *eighth* day, and it is about the best time for taking the liquid from the arm to vaccinate others with. If we let it go much longer, it gets to be a thick kind of *matter*, and does not do so well: but, in this early stage, it is a kind of *lymph* more like water: and I'll



be bound to say that those, who get the cow-pock properly from this, need have no fear of any small-pox afterwards." Well then he took this *lymph* from the arms that *worked*, and vaccinated those that *did not*; and, after that, he had us up again two or three times, to see whether we had it properly. And sure, enough, every word he told us proved to be true, for I had experience of it afterwards.—In a year or two after this, our Regiment was ordered abroad, and at the place where we lay, the small-pox was raging desperately bad; and we were in the very midst of it,—and yet not one of us took it. And, since that, my comrades, and I, have been times and times, with people that have had the small-pox, and have slept with them often and often, and we none of us caught any thing of it.—I remember, too, when I was in India, the small-pox was raging, and carrying off the poor creatures by hundreds: well, it happened that, just then, some of this *vaccine lymph* was brought over: you may be sure the people were glad enough to try this way of stopping it. Well, as sure as I am speaking, this *vaccination* put a stop to the desolation at once. Mercy seemed to stand "between the dead and the living, and the plague was staid." I

look upon this discovery as a wonderful blessing from God to man; and, with my own experience of the good of it, you may be sure I was glad enough to have my own children make use of it.— And that is exactly the reason why they are all so *well*, whilst yours, and neighbour Trotter's are all so *ill*.

*Dan.* Well, it's too late now for me. I wish I had had your experience, and then I am sure I should have done as you did. Nobody loves his children better than I do, and I always wish to do the best for them. I only wish I had known all these things before.

*Sam.* Why, Daniel, if we have no experience ourselves, and no time, and opportunity, to search into such matters, we should learn of those who are likely to have given their minds to these things, and to have made themselves well acquainted with them. Now, you know, there's my Lord, at the great house, and there's the Squire, and there's the Clergyman. Now they are all mighty fond of their children, and you may be sure would do well by 'em if they could. And they are all wonderful Gentlemen for books, and study; and they read and read, and make themselves masters of every thing of this kind, and they have



read every thing that has been said about this *vaccination*,—and I look upon it that, if they were not pretty sure that it would stand good, they would not have had their own children done.

*Dan.* Well that's just what I thought at the time.

*Sam.* Then why did not you have your wife and children vaccinated?

*Dan.* Why I was wrong. I know I was. But I kept doubting and doubting about it: till they broke out with the small-pox; and bad enough they are poor dears! That they are.

*Sam.* Well, and didn't our own Doctor tell us, too, that if we were *vaccinated*, we should be safe from small-pox; and he's a wonderful fine man, and has a deal of practice, and he sees, and knows, all about it, and can judge, now, pretty well whether it will do or not;—and he's all *for* it, and so are the right learned and clever Doctor's all over the kingdom.

*Dan.* Aye, there I was staggered. I asked the Doctor to inoculate our children for the small-pox, and he would not. He said he should be glad to *vaccinate* them, but that he would not inoculate *them*, nor *any body else*, for the small-pox, for he would not be the means of spreading so dangerous a disease. How-

ever, I told him that I could not quite make up my mind to the vaccination, and so he went away. Well! said I to myself, when he was gone, the Doctor must know better than I about this, because he sees so much concerning it. And its very curious too that he would not give us the small-pox, and so get a rare penny into his own pocket. Why, if he would have kept inoculating people for the small-pox, what with *that*, and what with attending them when they are ill with it, he might have made his fortune.

*Sam.* To be sure. And this shews that he wished us all well, as he chose rather to go without all that money than give us such a shocking, horrid, disease as the small-pox is. But, by his acting so, you may be sure that he knew pretty well that *vaccination* would stand good, or he would not have recommended it, when it was so contrary to his own interests.

*Dan.* No that's to be sure he would not; nor any of the other great Doctors either. For a matter of that, however, I've known people do quite well sometimes with the old inoculation. There's Thomas Philpot, in the Village of *Little-wit*, he was the first that had his children inoculated for the small-pox there last summer; and they all did quite well,—they ailed hardly any thing.



*Sam.* Why, it is very true that those who are *inoculated* for the old small-pox, generally have it much easier than those who catch it in the natural way. But yet the small-pox is *catching*, and the cow-pock is *not*; and this, in my mind, is quite enough to settle us about which we ought to take. You say Philpot's children did well; so much the better for *them*;—but then do'nt you remember that Tom Simple's children at the next door, caught it of them, and two of them died. And I believe it was from them, that Trotter's wife caught it, and brought it into this Parish, and gave it your children, and many others that are like to die of it. Now, if master Philpot thinks of this, I should not fancy that he could sleep very well on his bed of a night, neighbour.

*Dan.* Why, Samuel, it seems to me, now, from what you say, that, if people keep *inoculating* for the *small-pox*, the disorder will never be at an end, because that practice *keeps it alive*. But, if all would *vaccinate*, then there would presently be no such thing as small-pox in the kingdom; for this is the way *to kill it*.

*Sam.* Just so.

*Dan.* Well, that would be a wonderful blessing I am sure. I think there can

hardly be a worse disorder than the small-pox. What hundreds of people we hear of dying of it! And many, that *live*, are pitted, and seamed, and scarred by it; and some are made blind by it, and never get their eye-sight again as long as they live.

*Sam.* It is a miserable and dangerous complaint indeed! and it is, as you say, a wonderful blessing that it has pleased a gracious Providence to shew us the way of putting a stop to this dreadful scourge, by making known to us the use of *vaccination*. How thankful we ought to be for this, and how anxiously ought we to strive that this, His goodness, may be every where known, and applied to the benefit of our fellow creatures.

*Dan.* Why, you seem to me to be right, Samuel.—But, to tell you the truth, I have heard people say that this *vaccinating* plan is not *certain*. I have been told that some people have had the *small-pox*,—*after* being *vaccinated*.

*Sam.* Perhaps such a thing may happen now and then. Out of many many thousands, perhaps, here and there, one may have the small-pox afterwards. But what thousands I know that have lived with people that have been bad with the small-pox, and waited on 'em, and slept



with 'em, and have caught nothing;—because they had been *vaccinated* before.

*Dan.* Well, that's enough to be sure.—If one person out of a many thousand takes the small-pox afterwards; what is one odd case or so, out of such a number? It only shews us that nothing is *quite certain* in this world.

*Sam.* Why that's exactly the way to take it. It succeeds in nearly every case so well, that it is quite as certain as any thing in medicine can be expected to be. It is quite certain enough to shew us that Providence sent it for our good; and we ought therefore to receive it with thankfulness, and make use of it.—Do'nt you remember when the ague and fever was so bad in this Parish? And do'nt you remember, when the people were all so weak after it, that the Doctors gave 'em all the *bark* medicine?

*Dan.* Yes, and it seemed to make 'em all strong and stout again, presently.

*Sam.* Yes all but poor Browne's child.

*Dan.* Aye, it did not seem to do that child a bit of good in the world.

*Sam.* When the Doctor saw that it did Browne's child no good; I wonder why he did not stop giving any more bark in the parish.

*Dan.* What? What stop doing all the others good just because it did not happen to suit the constitution of Browne's child. And so you would have had the Doctor let all the rest of the parish continue weak and sickly, just because his medicine failed in one case or so. And you would have had us refuse to take *Bark*, because it did good, nine hundred and ninety-nine times, and failed the thousandth. I must say I think we should have acted very foolishly to have done so.

*Sam.* Not more foolishly I think, Daniel, then when we refuse all the benefit of vaccination, because it fails in one case out of several thousand.

*Dan.* Why you are right Samuel, I see what you mean.—But now, as nothing is certain, I should think it is possible that a person might have the *small-pox* again after having it before ;—have the old *small-pox*, I mean, *twice*.

*Sam.* Yes it is possible, and it does happen sometimes : very seldom though ;—the *small-pox*, however, happens again after the *small-pox*, quite as often, in proportion, as it does after the *cow-pox*.

*Dan.* How do you know this?

*Sam.* Why, Daniel, when I want to know any thing, I always make it a rule to ask those that I think are able to



tell me. What signifies going to neighbour this, and neighbour t'other, to ask them about things that they know no more about than myself? One says one thing, and one says another, and so you come away as wise as you went,—and do'nt know what to do after all.—Now, you know Doctor Skillful! From morning 'till night, every day of his life is he seeing sick people; either at their houses, or at the great Hospitals; and so such a gentleman as that, to be sure, is likely to know how these kind of things turn out: and, they say, he is so particular that he keeps a regular account of all that he sees in the course of his practice;—and so he is exactly the sort of man to ask about these things. Now if I wanted to learn how to drive a plough, or fill a dungcart, or tackle a team of horses together, I should not go to the Doctor, to learn these kind of things, 'cause you see he's had no practice in that way; and so either Jack Trotter, or you either, would beat him, out and out, in such like business. And just so I must think it is quite as queer for us to expect that we can know more about Doctors' matters than those who are brought up to them, and are in the constant practice of them.

*Dan.* Why that's all right, Samuel, I am certain of that.

*Sam.* Well then, I e'en went to the Hospital, and made bold to ask the Doctor all about it ;—there he was with three or four more Doctors, all sharp, clever-looking gentlemen as you would wish to see. And so I made bold to ask the Doctor whether he thought that the new discovery of *vaccination* was as safe as the old *small-pox inoculation*. “Quite as safe, my friend, said he, you may be assured. I should not recommend it to you, you may be sure, if my experience did not convince me that you might expect it to answer well. For now if I were to vaccinate your children, and, after having the *cow-pock* properly, they should still take the small-pox, every body would laugh at me, and I should lose my character and my practice too. And you may be sure that, if I did not know pretty well what I was about, I should not recommend the new discovery in preference to the old. However, he said, nothing is impossible, a person *may* have the small-pox twice, and so likewise, he *may* have the small-pox after vaccination, but these things happen so very seldom, that we do'n't regard them, and I assure you, that you are as safe



after *vaccination*, as after the old mode of *inoculation*." Then he said "that he had vaccinated five thousand with his own hand, and that, out of all these, only *two* had taken the small-pox." Another of the Doctors said "he had done three thousand, and that they all answered but *one*:" another said "he had done almost as many, and that not one of his had failed." Then I asked them, whether, if any body did happen to take the small-pox, after vaccination, whether it did not generally come of a much milder sort? They said, "yes, so mild and easy in general, that it is hardly to be called a disease." Then I told them that I had seen something like the small-pox break out on people that had had the cow-pock; but that it soon went off again, and that the people seemed to ail little or nothing. —"Pray, Gentlemen, said I, may not this have been the chicken-pox instead of the small-pox?"—"You are right, my friend," said they, "and the chicken-pox is so like the small-pox to look at, that you can hardly tell the difference; but it is milder, and goes off sooner." "Then, said I, "Pray Gentlemen, may not those people that think they have had the small-pox, after vaccination, be mistaken; and may it not have been only

the *chicken-pox* after all ?—They told me that it was exactly so.—Then I thanked them kindly for what they had been so good as to tell me, and wished them a good morning.—And I have been told since, that, in London, where so many great Doctors meet together, at what they call the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, they have given the matter all the consideration which could be given to it ; and that all these men agree in declaring that vaccination is a most wonderful grand discovery, and that, if generally, and properly used, it will be the means of entirely putting an end to the small-pox.—And it hardly makes you ill at all ; just a little inflammation on the arm ; no expense of confinement : no loss of time : and no danger of death.

*Dan.* Yes, and, it is *not catching*, that's the best of it ! Well, I see, now, that the small-pox may be entirely driven out of the kingdom by this plan of vaccination. What a mercy that would be !

*Sam.* Why, Daniel, it *is* driven out of almost all other kingdoms already : and there would have been an end of it in England, long before this time ; only John Bull, you see, is a little queerish sometimes, and would often rather go on



in his old way than take up any new improvements : and yet, as it was first found out by an Englishman, we ought to be the first to profit by it. You know I have been almost all over the world ; and, in foreign parts, I saw that people were glad enough to profit by it. Why there was old Bonaparte himself : he never liked the English ; and yet he was willing enough to use this *English* discovery ; and he had his own son, the little King, as they called him, vaccinated. You may be sure that he would not have done this, if he had not been pretty sure that this would keep his little treasure safe from the small-pox ;—and Boney was a sharp, clever fellow you may depend on't,—only Duke Wellington was too many for him.—And then there was that great man Alexander, the grand Emperor of Russia. I have seen him too ; a year or two ago he was in London. He knows what he is about I can tell you : and he is a wonderful friend to *vaccination*, because he has seen that it will put an end to the small-pox, and so save the lives of his people.

*Dan.* Well, it is wonderful, to be sure. —But now it seems to me that there are some parishes in England, where the small-pox never comes. Look at *Hardy*

parish! so big as it is, you never know the small-pox to be there:—but, at *Littlewit*, it seems to be always raging. I've been told that, several years ago, a Witch, or a Conjuror, or something of that kind, should say that *Littlewit* parish would have the small-pox, on and off, for many years; but that *Hardy* parish would have none.

*Sam.* Why, Daniel, I thought you had known better than to believe all the nonsense about witches and conjurors. The Almighty has no need to make his secrets known to such people as those. What the Lord makes known to us, by his word, we may depend upon: or if any new discovery is made, that sensible, reflecting people see to be for the good of mankind, we must believe that it comes from the Giver of all good things, and use it accordingly with thankfulness.

*Dan.* That's all right to be sure.—But then, how comes it that the people of *Littlewit* are almost always ill of the small-pox, and that the people of *Hardy* are never so?

*Sam.* Why the people of *Littlewit* set themselves against vaccination from the first, and so the small-pox is kept alive in the place; but at *Hardy*, the worthy



Clergyman recommends all the people to have their children vaccinated; and when any of them are brought to be christened, if they have not been vaccinated, he persuades them to go directly to the Doctor and have it done: and, as the people know that he means well by 'em, they have always taken his advice, and that's the reason the small-pox cannot get into *Hardy* parish;—and that's all the *conjunction* of it, I assure you.

*Dan.* Well, that must be the way it's done to be sure.—But, I've heard some people say that this *vaccination* will stand good for five or six years, and no more; and that, then, you might catch the small-pox.

*Sam.* Why, some people said so at first. But the great Doctors thought that it would be very strange if it should be so, and quite different from any thing that happened in their practice: however, they said, “the only way is to try.” Accordingly they have lately inoculated with small-pox matter, many people that had been vaccinated twenty or thirty years ago, and they have found that these people would not take the small-pox a bit more than those who had been done only a year or two ago. And I know,

myself, of a Clergyman, in Leicester-shire, that vaccinated two or three hundred, in his parish, fifteen years ago: and there has been no small-pox there since that time, 'till last year. And then some people brought it in;—but, mind ye, not one of these people that the Gentleman had vaccinated fifteen years ago would take the small pox. And there are plenty of such cases besides.

*Dan.* Well, it is very curious. And it does seem pretty plain, to be sure, from all you have told me, that this *vaccination* is a wonderful thing: and I wish, with all my heart, I had known these things before.—There are some people that I have talked with about it, that don't like it, because they say, at the first, it came from a Cow.—Now, I'm no scholar myself, but I think I have wit enough to see that it's all nonsense to make such an objection as that. If we find that the disease is mild and easy, and lasts only a day or two, and requires no confinement at home, and no expence, and that it keeps off the small-pox from us, what is it to us where it first came from? Besides I think a Cow is as nice, and as clean, and as wholesome an animal, as you would wish to look on. How nice



her milk is! And how sweet her breath is! And how wholesome her meat is!

*Sam.* Yes;—and, for a matter of that, the small-pox, and almost all other of these catching complaints they say came from some animal or other at the first; the Camel, or the Swine, or the Fox, or the Wolf, or the Cat, or something or other: and all these you see are dirty, or unwholesome, kind of animals; but a Cow is a wholesome creature; and they count that nothing is better for your health than to get amongst a good dairy of Cows.

*Dan.* But, Samuel, when people have been vaccinated and got well again, they say that they are apt to have heats and breakings out in the skin; and I think I have seen some so myself.

*Sam.* And so have I: and, if they had *not* been vaccinated, they would have had these breakings out just the same. If *vaccination* produced these disorders of the skin, we should have almost every body suffering by them, now almost every body is vaccinated. And yet they tell me, that, since this practice of *vaccination* came up, there have been much fewer of these disorders of the skin than ever was known before.

*Dan.* Well ; it's a great discovery to be sure.—I wonder who found it out first?

*Sam.* Why, Dr. Jenner to be sure, of Glo'stershire. Some forty or fifty years ago. He first observed how healthy the lads and lasses were that milked the Cows ; and, if he inoculated them for the small-pox, they would not take it : and they told the Doctor that the reason was, because they had already had the cow-pock, and that they had caught it from the Cows by milking them. Well, the Doctor thought to himself what a blessing it would be, if people could have this disorder instead of the small-pox, and so the lives of millions of people be saved, and a wonderful deal of misery and sorrow besides. Well, accordingly, he tried, and found that it answered well.—At first to be sure, it was not so well understood, as it is now, and so it sometimes failed. But now, having the experience of so many years upon it, they understand it properly, and all the great Doctors now agree that it is one of the greatest blessings, as far as the health of man goes, that it ever pleased Providence to make known to us. I have read heaps of papers and letters about it that a good Lady once

lent me ; and there they seem all of one mind in declaring, that, in the greater part of the world, this vaccination has entirely done away the small-pox, and that if it be not our own fault, it will put an end to it here too. If you like, I will try to get some of those papers, and read them to you some day.

*Dan.* No, I am quite satisfied. You've said enough.—But it's too late for me now. I wish I'd known all this before. I must go and see after my poor wife and children: poor creatures!—And, if I had but known all this before, they might have been just as well at this moment, as yours. Good bye Samuel.

FINIS.



SAFFRON WALDEN:

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10. The first of these is the  
fact that the world is not  
a uniform whole, but is  
divided into many parts,  
each of which has its own  
character and its own  
history. This is the first  
principle of geography.

The second principle is that  
the world is not a static  
whole, but is constantly  
changing. This is the second  
principle of geography.  
The third principle is that  
the world is not a uniform  
whole, but is divided into  
many parts, each of which  
has its own character and  
its own history. This is the  
third principle of geography.

The fourth principle is that  
the world is not a uniform  
whole, but is divided into  
many parts, each of which  
has its own character and  
its own history. This is the  
fourth principle of geography.  
The fifth principle is that  
the world is not a uniform  
whole, but is divided into  
many parts, each of which  
has its own character and  
its own history. This is the  
fifth principle of geography.

The sixth principle is that  
the world is not a uniform  
whole, but is divided into  
many parts, each of which  
has its own character and  
its own history. This is the  
sixth principle of geography.  
The seventh principle is that  
the world is not a uniform  
whole, but is divided into  
many parts, each of which  
has its own character and  
its own history. This is the  
seventh principle of geography.









